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**PORTERVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON
IN POSSESSION OF FORTY-FIVE FIREARMS**

FRESNO- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that TALAL ALI CHAMMOUT, 48, of Porterville, pled guilty this afternoon before United States District Judge Oliver Wanger to being a felon in possession of forty-five firearms.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Joint Terrorism Task Force.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Stanley A. Boone, who is prosecuting this case, CHAMMOUT admitted to possessing forty-five (45) separate firearms including three AK 47's, one TEC 9, and one Mini 14. The defendant admitted that on December 7, 2006, he purchased five (5) Beretta pistols for \$1,000 believing the firearms were stolen government property. He also admitted that on December 10, 2004, he purchased two sets of night vision goggles, one small arms protective insert, two chemical suits, two ballistic vests, one set of lower torso fragmentation armor and four pairs of hot weather combat boots, all of which he believed had been stolen from the United States government.

Sentencing is set for August 27, 2007 before Judge Oliver Wanger. The conviction carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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